UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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UDP/PROJECTS/2775
(ETH/78/005)
1 February 1980
ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA

Application of Nuclear Techniques (Phase II) (ETH/78/005)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	February 1979
Starting date of project activities:	August 1978 (Including previous assistance)
Planned completion date:	June 1981
To be executed by:	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Government implementing agency:	Institute of Pathobiology (Commission for Higher Education)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$353 600
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Ethiopia possesses about 40 million sheep and goats. Because of diseases, however, the full economic potential of these animals is not realized. One of the most widespread parasitic diseases in sheep is D. filaria lung worm. Existing treatment is costly and usually beyond the range of the average farmer.

2. Bovine trypanosomiasis is a major cause of cattle mortality limiting the development of the livestock industry. Leishmaniasis and other parasitic diseases are endemic in various parts of Ethiopia. These diseases seriously hinder Government efforts to obtain full benefits from its resources of cattle, sheep and goats.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

3. Under the IAEA regular programme, assistance was provided to the Government through the Institute of Pathobiology and in collaboration with the Veterinary Department for the development at the laboratory level of an irradiated vaccine against D. filaria. Experiments in immunological control have so far provided positive results. Research work is also under way on the use of radio-isotopes in experimentally infected and treated cattle.

4. Assistance is urgently needed for technical and economic evaluation of lung-worm disease with a view to widespread application of the developed vaccine in the sheep-breeding provinces. This is additional to development and application of radio-isotope techniques in research work for the control of trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis and other parasitic diseases.

5. Preparatory assistance was provided to enable three consultants to review the work undertaken under the IAEA Regular Programme, recommend future course of action and formulate a project document for UNDP assistance. In addition, an adviser was provided for six man-months.

II. Objectives and activities

6. The objective of the project is to assist the Institute of Pathobiology in its effort at parasitic control using nuclear techniques. It will further develop the antiparasitic radiation vaccine against lung-worm disease for widespread application as well as complete a programme in health physics for radiation control and protection.

III. Inputs

7. UNDP assistance consists of three advisers in animal science, parasitology and immunology; short-term fellowships for training national staff in these fields; and equipment for field operations and research, including one vehicle.

8. The Government will make available the facilities of the Institute of Pathobiology including the necessary technical and administrative staff. In addition, the project will have access to the sheep-breeding stations in the country for conducting experiments and demonstrations.

IV. Financial data

9. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	Previously approved	Present approval	Total approved
	$	$	$
Personnel	36 700	195 700	232 400
Training	7 300	35 900	43 200
Equipment	-	107 000	107 000
Miscellaneous	1 000	15 000	16 000
	45 000	353 600	398 600

10. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of the inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $348,000 in kind.

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